We claim:

1   1.   A method for processing voicemail messages, the method comprising:

2   transcribing a plurality of voicemail messages to produce a plurality of voicemail

3   message transcripts;

4   indexing the plurality of voicemail messages transcripts;

5   providing the voicemail message transcripts to one or more users;

6   receiving at least one selection action from one or more of the users, the at least one

7   selection action identifying at least a portion of one or more of the voicemail message transcripts

8   for delivery to one or more parties identified by the one or more users; and

9   providing the selected portion of the one or more voicemail message transcripts to the

10   one or more parties specified by the one or more users.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein audio files of the voicemail messages are provided to the

2   one or more parties specified by the one or more users, the audio files corresponding to solely the

3   portion of the voicemail message transcripts selected by the one or more users.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the selection portion of the one or more voicemail

2   message transcripts comprises a plurality of non-contiguous portions of the one or more

3   voicemail message transcripts.

1   4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more voicemail message transcripts are

2   provided as audio files selected from at least one of an mpx format, a .WAV format, a REAL

3   Audio format and an .mpg format.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the audio files only contain audio of the portion selected

2   by the one more users.

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3   6.   The method of claim 1, wherein providing the selected portion of the one or more

4   voicemail message transcripts comprises providing the selected portion in an electronic mail

5   message to the one more parties.

1   7.   The method of claim 6, wherein the electronic mail message includes an attachment of an

2   audio file corresponding to the selected portion.

1   8.   A method comprising:

2   processing a plurality of speech files to produce a plurality of indexed speech file

3   transcripts;

4   receiving a request to deliver selected portions of at least one of the indexed speech file

5   transcripts to one or more intended recipients; and

6   providing the selected portions of the at least one of the indexed speech file transcripts to

7   the one or more intended recipients, wherein the selected portions are provided in both a text and

8   an audio format.

1   9.   The method of claim 8, wherein processing the plurality of speech files to produce a

2   plurality of indexed speech file transcripts comprises:

3   receiving the plurality of speech file transcripts;

4   peforming automatic speech recognition upon the speech files; and

5   indexing the speech files.

1   10.   The method of claim 8, wherein the speech files are voicemail messages.

1   11.   The method of claim 8, wherein receiving a request to deliver selected portions of at least

2   one of the indexed speech file transcripts to one or more intended recipients comprises:

3   providing a selection facility to allow the selection of non-contiguous portions of the at

4   least one of the indexed speech file transcripts.

1   12.   The method of claim 8, wherein providing the selected portions of the at least one of the

2   indexed speech file transcripts to the one or more intended recipients, wherein the selected

3   portions are provided in both a text and an audio format.

1   13.   The method of claim 12, wherein the audio files are provided as attachments to one or

2   more electronic mail messages provided to the one or more intended recipients.

1   14.   The method of claim 8, wherein the speech file transcripts are included as text within one

2   or more electronic mail messages provided to the one or more intended recipients.

1   15.   The method of claim 14, wherein the text is placed within the body of the electronic mail

2   messages.

1   16.   A method comprising:

2   transcribing a plurality of speech messages;

3   indexing the plurality of speech messages;

4   providing a selection facility for at least one of the plurality of speech messages;

5   receiving a selection of at least a portion of the at least one speech message; and

6   providing the selected portion to one or more users.

1   17.   The method of claim 16, wherein transcribing the plurality of speech messages is

2   performed by automatic speech recognition.

1   18.   The method of claim 17, wherein the selection facility allows the selection of non-

2   contiguous portions of the speech message.

1   19.   The method of claim 16, wherein the at least a portion of the at least one speech message

2   is less than a selection of the entire speech message.

1   20.   The method of claim 16, wherein providing the selected portion to one or more users

2   comprises:

3   creating an electronic mail message containing only the selected portion in an audible

4   format.